


CA2 ALED
53 C.53

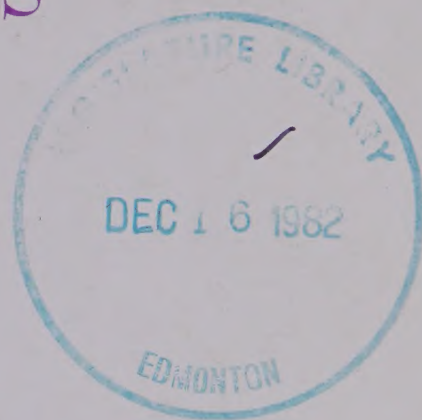
CA2 ALED 1953C53
Coronation Handbook For Schools. 1953. 1



3 3398 00131 5554

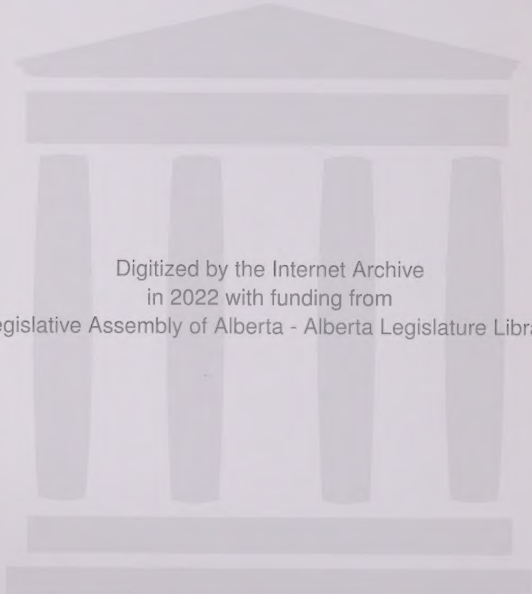
ALBERTA
PROVINCIAL LIBRARY

A CORONATION HANDBOOK FOR SCHOOLS



LIBRARY
VAULT 19

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
1953



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2022 with funding from
Legislative Assembly of Alberta - Alberta Legislature Library



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

(Crown Copyright Reserved)

FOREWORD

This booklet has been prepared to provide background material and some few suggestions on programming for those teachers, particularly of the elementary and junior high school grades, who may wish to celebrate with their pupils, in some formal manner, the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

It is hoped that the material here simply presented may serve to make the Coronation Ceremony, and the unique position of our Queen, more meaningful to little children; that by knowing her, as a person, they may more truly honor her, as their Sovereign.

CONTENTS

A New Queen	5
When Our Queen Was Princess Elizabeth	7
Accession Speech of Queen Elizabeth II	9
The Coronation	11
Suggestions for a School or Class Program	14
A Coronation Program	15
Source Material:	
Poems	16
Pageant: "The Queen's Heritage"	18
Songs	22

A NEW QUEEN

In the early morning of February 6, 1952, a quiet, kindly man passed away in his sleep. "His Majesty, King George, is dead!" was heard over the radios in all parts of the world, and a sadness and a sense of great loss were felt by millions.

What had King George VI done to make so many people love and honor him? He had shared the joys and sorrows of his people. During the dark days of World War II he had encouraged and advised them. By his great example he had strengthened their determination to carry on the struggle against the enemy. In the peace that followed he had worked for the good of all his people. He will long be remembered as "King George, the Good."

King George had planned to visit Australia, New Zealand, and other distant parts of the Commonwealth and Empire. When his illness made this long journey impossible, his elder daughter, Princess Elizabeth, started out in his place. She was 4,000 miles from home, in the jungles of Africa, when she heard of her father's death. Although saddened by the loss of her dearly beloved father, she had little time to mourn. It was necessary for her to hurry back to England to take up her duties and responsibilities as Queen.

What are these duties and responsibilities? How is it that our Queen, and her father before her, and the family to which they belong, have come to be so important to us all? Why do they hold such an honored place in the hearts of millions of people?

To answer these questions we have to go back many hundreds of years, back to the time when the Angles and Saxons first came to the small island of Britain.

LONG, LONG AGO

More than 1,500 years ago a tribe of Saxons were preparing to invade the island of Britain, far away across the North Sea. They had made raids on the country before, but this time they were planning to settle there. It was very important to have a strong leader for this daring venture. When the name of Cerdic was suggested, the men clashed their swords on their shields, to show that he was their choice.

Under their chosen leader, these Saxons settled on the island, driving the early Britons back to the hills. Many other tribes of Saxons and Angles settled in Britain, and each tribe had its own leader or king. As time went on, many tribes joined together, until one of their leaders, Egbert, became king of a large part of England. From this early King of England until today the sovereigns of this land have been ancestors of our Queen. What

a marvellous record! For more than a thousand years members of this family have been leaders of their people.

THROUGH THE CENTURIES

The powers and duties of kings and queens have changed with the centuries. Under the Saxon rulers the people helped make the laws by which they were governed. Then, for a time under the Norman kings, they lost this right. But gradually the power came back into the hands of the people. About seven hundred years ago the nobles and the citizens began to choose their representatives to make laws and see that the king ruled with justice to all. Since that time more and more power has passed to the elected representatives of the people.

THE QUEEN TODAY

Our Queen does not now make the laws that govern us, although she is consulted and the laws are made in her name. Her duties and responsibilities are of another kind.

The Queen is a symbol of the ties that hold together many different peoples in widely separated parts of the world. Nearly one-quarter of the people on our earth belong to the Commonwealth and Empire. People with brown skins, white skins, black skins, yellow skins—peoples of all races and religions have had a part in making this group of nations the greatest the world has ever known.

The Queen is an example of all that is best in our way of living. This beautiful young woman, this happy wife and mother, keeps before us the importance of the home in our society. We enjoy seeing pictures and reading of the happy family life of our Queen and her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh, with their two lovely children, Prince Charles and Princess Anne. Yet Queen Elizabeth continually thinks of others. As she rides through the streets, she smiles and waves to those who have waited to see her. She visits hospitals and schools, and is present at the opening of important exhibitions and festivals. When disaster strikes, as it did in the recent floods on the east coast of England, she at once goes to the area to sympathize with those in trouble, and encourage them. Help given in her name has a warm personal touch that enhances its value. We are indeed fortunate to have at the head of our Commonwealth a Queen who shows us such a fine example of happy family life and service to others.

The Queen takes part in all important events in the government of the country. She opens Parliament and reads the Speech from the Throne. She reads and signs all laws that are passed in her name. The government changes at the will of the people but the Queen remains impartial, above all differences of political opinion.

The Queen honors those who have done outstanding deeds for their country. She receives and decorates the soldiers, sailors and airmen whose bravery has been beyond the call of duty. The scientists, artists, writers and others who have excelled in their profession are honored and sometimes knighted by the Queen.

Distinguished visitors from other lands are often entertained by Her Majesty at Buckingham Palace. Her gracious manner and her interest in the affairs of their country help to strengthen their friendly relationship with our Commonwealth.

The Queen is the head of a great and widespread family of nations held together by ties of affection and common interest. These countries, like the grown-up sons and daughters in an ordinary family, make their own decisions; yet Great Britain remains the Mother Country. The Queen is a symbol of this great unity and freedom within our Commonwealth.

WHEN OUR QUEEN WAS PRINCESS ELIZABETH

Our Queen comes from a family that has long been accustomed to considering and serving others. She has the ability and personality necessary for her to fill this most difficult position. But long hours of study, careful training and much hard work have also helped to make our Queen the gifted and gracious person we so admire.

When Princess Elizabeth was born on April 21, 1926, no one thought she would one day be Queen of the Commonwealth. Her father, the Duke of York, was the second son of King George V. His elder brother Edward, Prince of Wales, was heir to the throne. However, she was the King's first grandchild and the people began to watch eagerly for the pictures of this beautiful baby Princess.

Elizabeth had a very happy childhood with her two loving parents and later with her lively younger sister Margaret. They were all very fond of dogs and almost every picture of the family showed one or more of their pets with them. Long before Princess Elizabeth was old enough to ride a pony she had a large number of toy horses. These were well cared for and always had their saddles and bridles removed at night.

When Elizabeth was five, the people of Wales gave her a house of her own. "Little House," as it was named, was perfect in every detail but it was made for a child and a grown person could not stand upright in it. Visitors remarked upon the neatness and cleanliness of "Little House." It was always well dusted, the floors polished, and although attempts at cooking were carried on in the tiny kitchen, it was always left in perfect order. All this work was done by the two Royal Princesses who took complete

charge of this small house. Soon two other children, Prince Charles and Princess Anne, will be playing in "Little House." Perhaps with a Prince in charge it won't be kept quite so neat and tidy.

Before she was six, lessons began for Princess Elizabeth. Like all children she had to learn reading, writing and arithmetic. As she grew older, music, French, and the history of her own country and the Commonwealth Nations, were added.

Princess Elizabeth was eleven years old when her father became King George VI. It was then almost certain that one day she would be Queen and she had to be prepared to fill this high and difficult position. Her studies took on a new importance and took up a great deal of her time.

Of course, the Princess had time for fun, too. Elizabeth became a Girl Guide and young Margaret was a Brownie. They enjoyed the games and camping out with girls their own age. And they worked hard to pass all their tests.

When war came in 1939, the King and Queen stayed in London, but the two Princesses lived at Windsor, a few miles out of the city. Many other children had left their parents and homes because of the danger of bombing. It was to these children that Princess Elizabeth made her first broadcast. She knew how they felt because she, too, missed her parents. Margaret was close beside her elder sister at this important event. Not wanting her to feel left out, Princess Elizabeth asked Margaret to say a few words. Those in charge of the broadcast were surprised when Margaret's young voice piped out, "Good-night, children."

During the early years of the war the Princesses carried on their studies at Windsor. Their spare time was spent in doing what they could to help the war effort. They knitted and sewed and took care of a garden to help out during the shortage of food. They put on several plays and charged admission. The money they made went to the Red Cross.

Like all other girls in war-time England, Princess Elizabeth registered for service when she was sixteen. She was excited when her uniform came and she began her training. No easy job was given her, and she was treated just the same as all the others in the class. All these girls were being taught to drive cars or trucks. They also had to know how to change tires and to keep their machines in good running order. To pass, Princess Elizabeth had to be able to take an engine apart and put it together again. One day when the King and Queen visited her station they couldn't see her. Finally, however, she appeared crawling out from beneath a car she had been repairing. When she had passed all her tests, Princess Elizabeth drove a huge Red Cross van through the heavy London traffic even though bombs were falling on the city.

Soon after the war she visited South Africa with her parents. On her return to England it was announced that she would be married to the charming and handsome Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. Preparations for this important event began, and gifts and messages poured in from every part of the Commonwealth. On her wedding day, November 20, 1947, she looked truly a fairy Princess with her happy smiling face and her beautiful gown.

The Commonwealth rejoiced again when her son, Prince Charles, and her daughter, Princess Anne, were born.

We in Canada were fortunate to have Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh visit us in the fall of 1951. We are hoping that in the not too distant future she will visit us again as our Queen.

ACCESSION SPEECH OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Elizabeth II took the oath of accession to the British Throne on February 8, 1952, and was proclaimed "Queen of this Realm and of her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith." Her Majesty said in her declaration after accession:

"Your Royal Highnesses, My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen:

"By the sudden death of my dear father I am called to assume the duties and responsibilities of sovereignty.

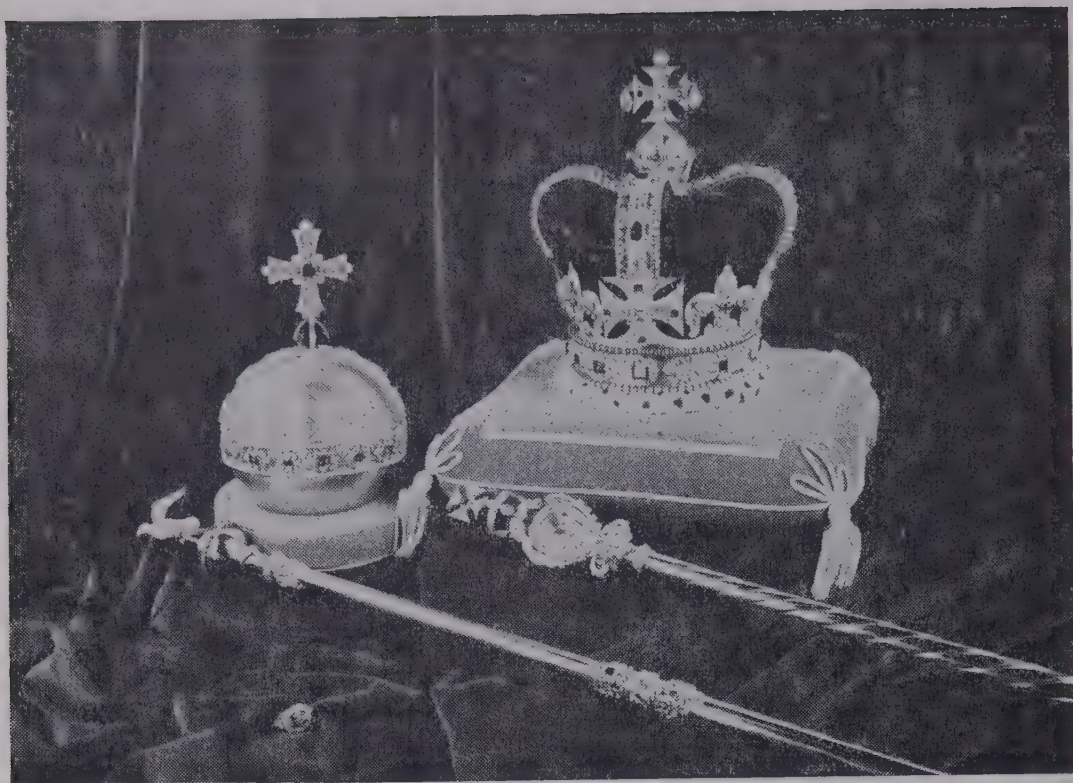
"At this time of deep sorrow, it is profound consolation to me to be assured of the sympathy which you and all my peoples feel toward me, to my mother, and my sister, and to the other members of my family.

"My father was our revered and beloved head, as he was of the wider family of his subjects—the grief which his loss brings is shared among us all.

"My heart is too full for me to say more to you today than that I shall always work, as my father did throughout his reign, to uphold the constitutional government and to advance the happiness and prosperity of my peoples, spread as they are all the world over.

"I know that in my resolve to follow his shining example of service and devotion, I shall be inspired by the loyalty and affection of those whose Queen I have been called to be, and by the counsel of their elected parliaments.

"I pray that God will help me to discharge worthily this heavy task that has been laid upon me so early in my life."



THE CROWN JEWELS AND REGALIA: ST. EDWARD'S CROWN AND THE ORB;
SCEPTRE WITH CROSS; SCEPTRE WITH DOVE; THE SOVEREIGN'S RING

The Sovereign's Orb is of polished gold, studded with large pearls, rubies, sapphires and emeralds. It is placed in the Sovereign's right hand immediately after the Sovereign has put on the Royal Robe.

The Sceptre with Cross, otherwise known as the Royal Sceptre or Sovereign's Sceptre, is placed in the right hand of the Sovereign at the Coronation, the Archbishop saying: "Receive the Royal Sceptre, the Ensign of the Kingly Power and Justice," and pronounces his blessing. The Sceptre contains, among other jewels, the Great Star of Africa, cut from the Cullinan Diamond and weighing 530 carats, which was presented to King Edward VII and, at his suggestion, embodied in the Royal Sceptre.

The Sceptre with Dove is also known as the Rod of Equity.

The Sovereign's Ring embraces a very valuable sapphire and four long narrow rubies. Round these is a circle of diamonds, the general design being to represent the Cross of St. George. The Coronation Ring is the Sovereign's private property.

(Crown Copyright Reserved)

THE CORONATION

MEANING OF THE SERVICE

On Christmas Day, 1952, Queen Elizabeth sat alone in a room broadcasting a message to the people of the Commonwealth and Empire. She spoke of her Coronation in these words:

"At my Coronation next June I shall dedicate myself anew to your service. . . .

"You will be keeping it as a holiday. But I want to ask you all, whatever your religion may be, to pray for me on that day—to pray that God may give me wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be making and that I may faithfully serve Him and you all the days of my life."

These words help us to realize the true meaning of the Coronation Ceremony. It is a religious ceremony in which the sovereign makes solemn promises before God and the people to rule with justice and mercy.

It will be a splendid scene—gay with flags and bunting—bright with flashing jewels. The velvet cloaks and cloth of gold remind us of by-gone days. For this is a very old ceremony. More than twelve hundred years ago an account was written of the Coronation of a king. Through the centuries many changes have been made but the purpose has remained the same. Queen Elizabeth will be crowned and anointed as head of the Church, State and Commonwealth.

PREPARATION

Every part of this important ceremony has been carefully planned. We know almost exactly what will take place but this does not take away our interest. By reading about the different parts of the long service we will be able to understand and appreciate this ancient ceremony. Slight changes in the ritual, and wording, of the service, have taken place from time to time, but the meaning and spirit of the ceremony have remained throughout the centuries the same.

On the morning of June 2, Queen Elizabeth will leave Buckingham Palace and will drive in the State Coach through the streets of London to Westminster Abbey. This beautiful old building was built more than nine hundred years ago and every sovereign since then has been crowned in it. The Abbey will be crowded. Important people from all countries in our great Commonwealth, and from many other parts of the world, will be waiting for the Queen's entrance.

THE RECOGNITION

First the Queen must be accepted by the people. The Archbishop of Canterbury will ask them if they are willing to have Elizabeth for their queen, using these words:

"I here present unto you Elizabeth, undoubted Queen of this Realm; Wherefore All you who are come this day to do your Homage and Service, are you willing to do the same?"

The people gathered there will answer in a loud voice: "God save the Queen!"

This will be done four times—the Queen and the Archbishop facing north, south, east and west. Each time the answering cry will be: "God save the Queen!"

THE OATH

Then the Queen must promise to rule according to the laws of the land and the laws of God. This oath is a very solemn one, and, although changed to meet the new ways of government, is similar to the pledge given by the ancient Saxon Kings.

Her Majesty will answer, "All this I promise to do," and going to the Altar will place her hand on the Bible and will say: "The things which I have here before promised, I will perform and keep. So help me God."

THE ANOINTING AND CROWNING

The Queen will then sit in the Coronation Chair. This oaken chair is very old indeed. It was made in the year 1308 for King Edward I to hold the Stone of Scone on which the ancient Scottish kings had been crowned. Since that time all kings and queens, except two, have sat in this chair when the crown was placed on their heads.

Queen Elizabeth will be anointed with oil as was done in the Bible days. The oil will be poured into a golden spoon and the Archbishop will anoint the Queen on the head, the chest and the palms of both hands.

The Ring will be put on the Queen's hand and she will be handed the Orb and Cross, a ball of gold with a band of jewels around it and a Cross on the top. This is to show that the whole world is subject to the power of God.

The Queen will be handed two sceptres. In her right hand she will hold the Sceptre and the Cross to show power and justice. In her left hand she will hold the Sceptre and the Dove to show equality and mercy.

While the Queen is holding these two sceptres the Archbishop will pray in these words:

"O God, the Crown of the faithful, bless, we beseech Thee, and sanctify this Thy servant Elizabeth our Queen; and as Thou dost this day set a Crown of pure gold upon her head, so enrich her royal heart with Thine abundant grace, and crown her with all princely virtues, through the King Eternal, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen."

The Archbishop will hold the Crown above her for a few seconds and then slowly and reverently place it upon her head. Thus the Queen is crowned.

As the gold and jewels of the Crown flash in the lights the nobles who are watching the ceremony will place their coronets on their heads. The trumpets will sound and all will cry:

“God save the Queen!
Long live the Queen!”

THE HOMAGE

But the service is not over. The Queen will move to the Throne Chair. She has made her promises and now is the time for others to promise to be faithful and true to her. Long ago each person who held power or lands would kneel before the sovereign and make this promise. Now only a few will kneel before the Queen; the others will make their promises in their places.

THE COMMUNION SERVICE

The Coronation Service is over and a Communion Service will be held. The Queen will remove the Crown and put down the two Sceptres. After this service the Crown will be placed on her head, and, carrying the two Sceptres, she will leave the Abbey.

THE PEOPLE'S WELCOME

The Queen will drive through the streets of London. Thousands upon thousands will be gathered to cheer as she passes slowly by. The great waves of sound will assure her of the love and loyalty of her people.

MODERN WONDERS

In the past only those invited to Westminster Abbey saw this impressive ceremony. On June 2 many thousands will see it by television. Even those who live in the distant parts of the Commonwealth will be able to see it soon after in the movies of their own cities or towns.

Although we live far from London we will be able to follow this stirring ceremony as it is broadcast by radio to all the world. As we listen, let us say with those in Westminster Abbey:

“God save the Queen!
Long live the Queen!”

SUGGESTIONS FOR A SCHOOL OR CLASS PROGRAM

Teachers may find the following suggestions useful in making up an appropriate program to celebrate the Coronation. Selections might be chosen from the brief list of songs, readings and recitations given below, or from the sample program which follows it. Perhaps some teachers will prefer to use other songs and other readings or dramatizations, better suited to the talents of their school or class, chosen from the volumes of **The Canadian Singer**, the basic readers, or other sources available in the classroom.

The Coronation Ceremony itself is essentially a religious one; its meaning can perhaps be best reflected in the classroom by a brief program marked by simple dignity.

SUGGESTED SONGS

1. I Vow to Thee, My Country (Page 22)
2. Our Flag (**Canadian Singer**, Book 1, page 66)
3. Our Flag (**Canadian Singer**, Book 2, page 147)
4. Our Country (**Canadian Singer**, Book 5, page 7)
5. Land of Our Birth (Page 24)

SUGGESTED READINGS AND RECITATIONS

1. The Queen Today (Pages 6-7)
2. For My Country (Page 16)
3. England and Her Colonies (Page 16)
4. "Breathes There the Man . . . " (Page 17)
5. I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes (**Riding With the Sun**, page 214)
6. The Flag Goes By (**Wide Open Windows**, page 418)

SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE READINGS

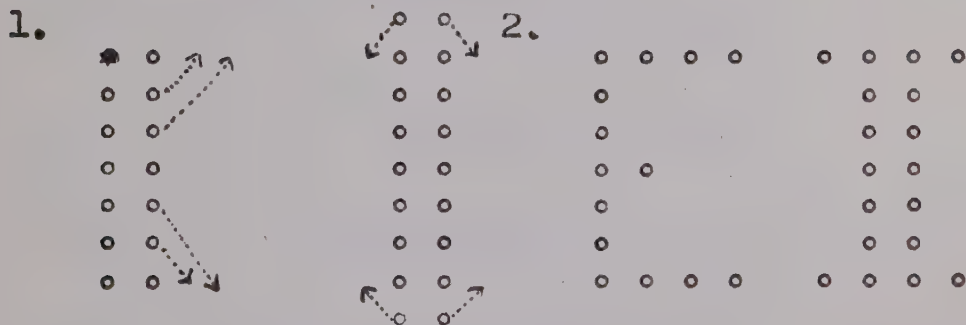
1. *Psalm 122
2. I Samuel 10:24
3. I Kings 3:5-15
4. Psalm 72:1-19
5. Romans 13:1-7

* The words of this Psalm are sung by the choir as the Sovereign enters the Abbey for the Coronation.

A CORONATION PROGRAM

(One teacher, in consultation with her pupils, has chosen the following selections for their program.)

1. O Canada (**Canadian Singer**, Book 4, page 198)
2. A Reading: "When Our Queen Was Princess Elizabeth" (Pages 7-9)
(This could be developed in the language lessons in the classroom, the best reading chosen to be given on the program.)
3. A Brief Address: "The Meaning of the Coronation Service" (This might be taken from this booklet.)
4. A Song: "Our Coronation Prayer" (Page 23)
5. Choral Speech: "Children of the Empire" (Page 17)
6. A Song: "A Pledge" (**Canadian Singer**, Book 5, page 117)
7. A Pageant: "The Queen's Heritage" (Pages 18-21)
8. A Flag Drill: A group of younger pupils (suggested number, 32) might march to music, ending in four files. At a signal they could form "E II".



9. The Oath of Allegiance:

"I, (name), do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, her Heirs and Successors according to law. So help me God."

10. God Save the Queen (**Canadian Singer**, Book 2, page 186; Book 3, page 194)

FOR MY COUNTRY

I ought to love my country,
The land in which I live;
Yes, I am very sure my heart
Its truest love should give.

For if I love my country,
I'll try to be a man
My country may be proud of;
And if I try I can.

She wants men brave and noble,
She needs men brave and kind,
My country needs that I should be
The best man she can find.

—Selected.

ENGLAND AND HER COLONIES

She stands a thousand-wintered tree,
By countless morns impearled;
Her broad roots coil beneath the sea,
Her branches sweep the world;
Her seeds, by careless winds conveyed,
Clothe the remotest strand
With forests from her scatterings made,
New nations fostered in her shade,
And linking land with land.

O ye by wandering tempest sown
'Neath every alien star,
Forget not whence the breath was blown
That wafted you afar!
For ye are still her ancient seed
On younger soil let fall—
Children of Britain's island-breed,
To whom the Mother in her need
Perchance may one day call.

—Sir William Watson.

LOVE OF COUNTRY

Breathes there the man, with soul so dead,
Who never to himself hath said,
 This is my own, my native land!
Whose heart hath ne'er within him burn'd,
As home his footsteps he hath turn'd
 From wand'ring on a foreign strand?
If such there breathe, go, mark him well;
For him no minstrel raptures swell;
High though his titles, proud his name,
Boundless his wealth as wish can claim:
Despite those titles, power and pelf,
The wretch, concentr'd all in self,
Living, shall forfeit fair renown,
And, doubly dying, shall go down
To the vile dust from whence he sprung,
Unwept, unhonor'd and unsung.

—*Sir Walter Scott.*

CHILDREN OF THE EMPIRE

Children of the Empire, you are brothers all;
Children of the Empire, answer to the call;
Let your voices mingle, lift your heads and sing,
"God save dear old Britain, and God save Britain's queen."

Children of the Empire, your fathers fought and died
That you might stand, a noble band, in honor and in pride;
That you might do the thing you will, and strike with arm of might
For justice and for freedom's sake, for country, queen, and right.

Children of the Empire, from little isles they came,
To spread abroad in every land the magic of their fame;
They toiled, they strove, they perished, that you and I might see
The fair, free lands of Britain arise in every sea.

Children of the Empire, clasp hands across the main,
And glory in your brotherhood again and yet again;
Uphold your noble heritage—oh, never let it fall—
And love the land that bore you, but the Empire best of all!

—*Edward Shirley.*

THE QUEEN'S HERITAGE

A ROLL-CALL OF THE COMMONWEALTH AND EMPIRE

Britannia:

In the United Kingdom it is a time of rejoicing. From England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales people are gathering in London to celebrate the crowning of our Queen.

Long ago men went forth from these small islands—sailors, traders, settlers—and through their efforts brought into being the most unusual family of nations the world has ever known. Now from these many countries, from all continents on the earth, my sons and daughters of many colors and religions are returning to rejoice with us. The roll-call is long and varied. Some of my children are grown and make their own decisions. Others are young and need help and guidance until they are able to manage their own affairs.

I'll start with my oldest dominion, Canada, a country that is rapidly taking an important part in the affairs of the world.

Canada:

We will be with you on that day, Britannia, because your Queen is also Queen of Canada. My people come from many lands and two main languages, English and French, are spoken in my country, but we are all Canadians. Our loyalty to the Commonwealth is assured.

Britannia:

Far across the Pacific Ocean are the "Lands Down Under". Australia and New Zealand, will you be with us?

Australia and New Zealand:

We gladly answer "Yes! Britannia."

Australia:

Like Canada we are independent nations but we are joined to you by ties that cannot be broken.

New Zealand:

Most of our people came from your islands. They settled here bringing your language, customs and traditions with them.

Australia:

Queen Elizabeth is our Queen too and we rejoice in her Coronation.

Britannia:

In the great sub-continent of India three new nations were formed. They selected their type of government and chose to remain in our family of nations.

India:

India became a republic and as such we can't have a Queen. However, we do acknowledge your Queen as head of the Commonwealth and we'll be with you when she is crowned.

Pakistan:

Ours is a very old civilization, but we are a very young dominion. We have many problems ahead of us and need the help and advice of your great family of nations.

Ceylon:

Ceylon is an island Dominion. We are just learning to govern ourselves. Like Pakistan, we chose the Queen as head of our government and our representatives will be in Westminster Abbey for her Coronation.

Britannia:

On the great continent of Africa many countries belong to our Commonwealth and Empire. First I'll call upon the independent nation of South Africa.

South Africa:

When the Union of South Africa is mentioned most people think of diamonds and gold. It is true that we have great mineral wealth but we are a farming, fruit-growing, cattle-raising country as well. We have been a member of the Commonwealth for about fifty years and we are ready to celebrate the Coronation of our Queen.

Britannia:

This finishes the Commonwealth roll-call. Now for the younger members of my family who still need help and guidance.

The roll-call of my Empire.

Northern and Southern Rhodesia!

N. and S. Rhodesia:

Here, Britannia. Some day in the not too distant future we hope to be admitted into the Commonwealth as a Dominion.

Britannia:

British East Africa!

One or more answer:

The colonies of Nyasaland, Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika answer your call, Britannia.

Britannia:

British West Africa!

One or more:

Nigeria, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and Gambia are here.

Group of East and West Africa:

1. Most of our people have dark skins to protect them from the heat of the sun.
2. In some parts very little of your western civilization has reached us.
3. With guidance and help we will develop until we are able to manage our own affairs.
4. We look to the Queen for equality and justice. With the rest of the Empire we rejoice at her crowning.

Britannia:

Between the sister continents of North and South America lie a group of islands and countries that owe allegiance to the Crown.

The Colonies of the Caribbean—are you joining our celebration?

Group:

The Bahamas,
Jamaica,
Barbados,
The Leeward and Windward Isles,
British Honduras,
British Guiana,
and Trinidad
all answer "Yes" to your call.

Britannia:

The roll-call is not yet completed. The Union Jack flies above many settlements scattered over the Seven Seas.

One or more answer:

1. Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus and Aden.
2. New Guinea, Fiji, Hong Kong and Malaya.
3. We, too, have an important part in guarding the safety and interest of the larger and more powerful brothers and sisters in our family of nations.
4. We, too, will rejoice when Elizabeth is crowned as our Queen.

Britannia:

This truly remarkable family has answered my call. Nearly five hundred million people acknowledge the Queen as the head of their government.

This is our Queen's heritage—her legacy from the past. The building of an even greater future lies in the hands of each one of us. Let us carry on and improve the work of those who have gone before. Let us make our Commonwealth and Empire a great force working for the good of the whole world.

We are gathered here to pledge our love and loyalty to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. With one voice let us give the ancient cry:

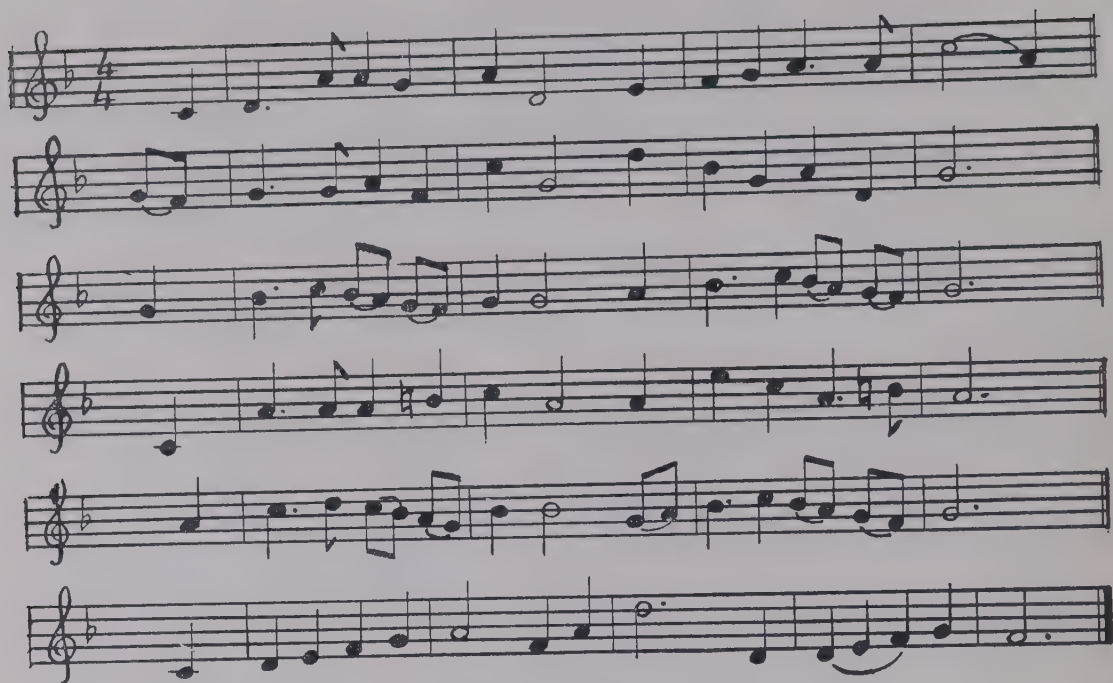
All:

God save the Queen!
Long live the Queen!

SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR STAGING "THE QUEEN'S HERITAGE"

1. A large map of the world showing the Commonwealth and Empire in color might be made and used as a background.
2. The flags of the nations might be made on unbleached cotton or sheeting, using wax crayons. If ironed on the wrong side the colors will stand out and the flags will be fairly stiff.
3. Name signs could be made for the different countries.
4. Oldest pupils might represent Dominions; the tiniest pupils could be the tiniest colonies.

I VOW TO THEE, MY COUNTRY

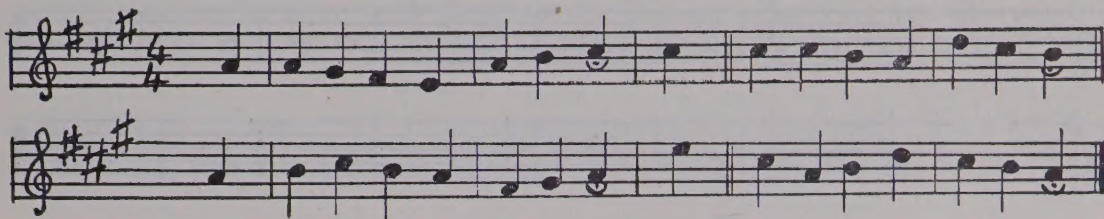


I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above,
Entire and whole and perfect, the service of my love,
The love that asks no question: the love that stands the test,
That lays upon the altar the dearest and the best:
The love that never falters, the love that pays the price,
The love that makes undaunted the final sacrifice.

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago,
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know.
We may not count her armies: we may not see her King,
'Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering.
And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
And her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace.

—Sir Cecil Spring-Rice.

OUR CORONATION PRAYER



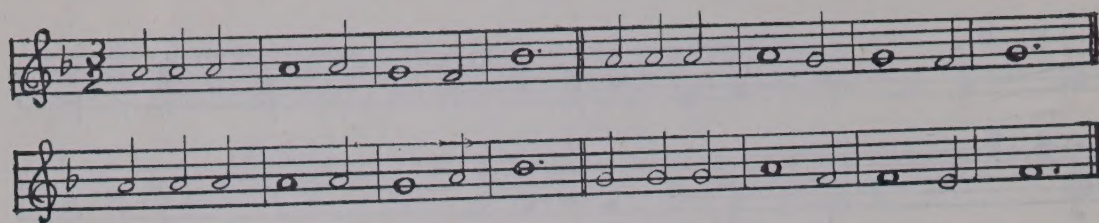
In answer to our Sovereign's plea,
We pray that she may guided be,
And strength she needs in Thee may find,
O God, the Ruler of mankind.

We pray for health and happiness,
For courage and for righteousness,
So that our Queen may always be
A servant true, O God, to Thee.

And on her coronation day,
With one accord we all will say,
Rejoice and swell the happy sound,
For on this day our Queen is crowned!

—Phyllis Law.

LAND OF OUR BIRTH



Land of our birth, we pledge to thee
Our love and toil in the years to be;
When we are grown and take our place
As men and women with our race.

Father in heaven, who lovest all,
O help Thy children when they call;
That they may build, from age to age,
An undefiled heritage.

Teach us to rule ourselves always,
Controlled and cleanly night and day;
That we may bring, if need arise,
No maimed or worthless sacrifice.

Teach us delight in simple things,
And mirth that has no bitter springs;
Forgiveness free of evil done,
And love to all men 'neath the sun.

Land of our birth, our faith, our pride,
For whose dear sake our fathers died;
O Motherland, we pledge to thee,
Head, heart, and hand through the years to be.

—Rudyard Kipling.

